

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 ACDE-00 ERDE-00 ERDA-05

CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01

PM-03 PRS-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

TRSE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05 BIB-01 /088 W
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P R 241620Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6702

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L DUBLIN 731

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PARM, MBFR, EI

SUBJECT: MBFR: EC NINE DISCUSSION

REF: A. BONN 06363; B. LONDON 06079

1. AN AD HOC EC GROUP MET IN DUBLIN BRIEFLY APRIL 22 TO DISCUSS MBFR. AT OUR REQUEST, IRISH BRIEFED AS APRIL 24 BUT DID NOT COMMUNICATE MUCH OF SUBSTANCE. WE GATHER THAT IRISH, AS NON-NATO MEMBER, FELT SLIGHTLY AWKWARD AND OUT-OF-TOUCH IN THEIR ROLE AS CHAIRMAN. OTHER POSTS MAY THUS GET MORE DETAILED INFO.

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2. IRISH SAID THAT THIS WAS FOURTH IN A SERIES OF EC DISCUSSIONS ON

IMPLICATIONS OF MBFR FOR EUROPEAN UNION AND EVENTUAL EUROPEAN DEFENSE COMMUNITY. LAST PRECEDING MEETINGS WERE HELD IN BONN IN MARCH AND MAY OF 1974. SINCE IRISH ARE NOT THEMSELVES INVOLVED IN MBFR, THEY PROVIDED ONLY FACILITIES AND "TECHNICAL PRESIDENCY" FOR APRIL 22 MEETING, WITHOUT ATTEMPTING TO GUIDE DISCUSSION. THERE IS, THE IRISH SAY, NO QUESTION OF FORMING AN "EC LOBBY" IN NATO, AND NO ONE AT THE MEETING HAD ANY SUCH INTENTION.

3. THE TECHNICAL FOCUS/OF DISCUSSION WAS A BRITISH PAPER ON IMPLICATIONS OF MBFR FOR EUROPE. (WE ASSUME THAT THIS IS THE PAPER REPORTED BY LONDON IN REF B.) THE FRENCH RAISED A NUMBER OF POINTS THAT THEY HAVE ALREADY CONVEYED BILATERALLY TO UNITED STATES. (IRISH THOUGHT THIS MIGHT HAVE BEEN DONE IN VIENNA.) THRUST OF FRENCH CONCERN IS THAT DIRECTIONS RECENTLY TAKEN BY MBFR TALKS HAVE GIVEN THEM MORE IMPORTANCE THAN ORIGINALLY INTENDED AND HAVE RAISED ADDITIONAL PROBLEMS FOR EUROPEAN DEFENSE OPTIONS.

4. THERE WERE ALSO PERFUNCTORY DISCUSSIONS OF ITEMS ON WHICH IRISH FEEL VERY MUCH ON THE MARGINS, SUCH AS NATIONAL SUB-CEILINGS. MEETING ENDED UNUSUALLY EARLY IN THE DAY. RENDAHL

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